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★ news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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TROUT POPULATION IN LAKE POWELL DUE FOR FOUR MILLION INCREASE THIS WEEK

The rainbow trout population of Lake Powell in Arizona and Utah will be increased by four million this week, the Department of the Interior has announced. The fingerlings will be air-dropped 200,000 at a time in one of the largest aerial stockings of fish ever undertaken.

The fish drops will begin the morning of May 11 immediately north of Glen Canyon Dam and will continue progressively upstream during a five-day period to provide wide dispersion of the trout.

The fingerlings will be dropped, along with water, from an altitude of 300 feet. Four drops will be made on each flight.

Similar aerial stockings in 1963 and 1964 planted 7.6 million trout and 3 million black bass in the lake with only minor losses from impact on the lake surface.

The fingerlings are being supplied by National Fish Hatcheries of Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. The hatcheries are at Willow Beach, Alchesay, and Williams Creek, Arizona; and at Saratoga, Wyo.

The planting operation will be carried out by Intermountain Aviation, Inc., Marana, Ariz. Flights on May 11, 12, and 13 will originate from Kingman, Ariz.; on May 14 from Winslow, Ariz.; and on May 17, from Saratoga, Wyo.

Federal fish hatchery crews will work around the clock to gather the large numbers of fish and transport them to airports in time for take-off at dawn each day.

Glen Canyon Dam, on the Colorado River at the Arizona-Utah border, was constructed by Interior's Bureau of Reclamation. The dam is 710 feet high and has a 1,550-foot-long crest. Its reservoir, Lake Powell, eventually will extend 186 miles upstream and will have a surface of 162,700 acres. The shoreline will extend almost 1,900 miles.

After the new stocking program, a total of nearly 15 million fish from Federal fish hatcheries will have been planted in Lake Powell. It already ranks as one of the best fishing spots in the West.

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